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EXAMINER	
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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/593,041	YAMADA, EIKO	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	SIMON SING	2614	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *15 September 2006*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1,2,4-40,42 and 43* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1,2,4-40,42 and 43* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☒ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *09/15/2006*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. Figure 1 should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated (pages 1 - 2 of the Specification). See MPEP § 608.02(g). Corrected drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Objections

2. Claim 1 is objected to because of the following informalities:

"by said by said" In line 23 is a typo, and should be changed to: "by said".

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

> Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

3. Claims 1, 23 and 40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. The claims recite a limitation of

sharing processing identification information among an information providing unit, a voice processing unit and a terminal (client unit). However, since the processing identification information is being used only between the information providing unit and the voice processing unit, but not the terminal, therefore, sharing the processing identification information with the terminal is a non-functions description.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

4. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 4 depends on a cancelled claim, which renders it being indefinite.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1, 7-29, 31-33, 36-38, 40, 42 and 43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Uppaluru US 5,915,001 in view of Penning et al. US 5,717,740.

5.1 Regarding claims 1, 23 and 40, Uppaluru discloses a system in figure 1, comprising:

a telephone terminal 111 (column 4, lines 48-51);

a voice processing unit 105 which perform voice processing on the basis of voice received from the terminal 111 (column 6, lines 6-30);

an information providing unit 102 which receives a voice processing result from the voice processing unit and transmits information reflecting the voice processing result to the terminal (column 5, lines 51-56; column 6, lines 31- 66),

wherein the voice processing unit obviously generates processing identification information (account number of subscriber 107, i.e. generating packets for transmitting to the information providing unit 102, including user account number for identifying a customized home page and subsequent subjects of the customized home page stored in the information providing unit 102) (column 9, lines 57-64; column 12, line 66 – column 13, line 2).

Uppaluru fails to teach sharing the processing identification information (account number) with the terminal 111.

However, Penning teaches that a telephone device stores user account number and telephone numbers (column 1, lines 10-16).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the Uppaluru reference with the teaching of Penning, so that the telephone terminal 111 would have stored the account number of

user 107. The motivation for such a modification was to enable a user to store an account number without memorization.

5.2 Regarding claim 2, Uppaluru teaches voice recognition (column 5, lines 40-49; column 6, lines 24-36).

5.3 Regarding claim 7, it would have been obvious that a telephone number of terminal 111 could be used as account number.

5.4 Regarding claims 8-10, the modified Uppalluru reference teaches storing account number which obviously can be the telephone number of terminal 111, and transmitting the account number to the voice processing unit 105.

5.5 Regarding claim 11, Uppaluru teaches transmitting account number from the terminal 111 to the information providing unit 102 via voice processing unit 105.

5.6 Regarding claim 12, examiner takes an official notice that a voice browser is able to communicate with an IP phone using voice over IP via packet network.

5.7 Regarding claims 13-16, Uppaluru teaches transmitting information from the information providing unit 102 to the terminal 111 via the voice processing unit 105 (column 6, lines 6-46; column 11, lines 11-67).

5.8 Regarding claim 17, since a PSTN 109 comprises ISDN network, so it would have been obvious that voice information from terminal 111 comprises digital voice data.

5.9 Regarding claims 18, 19, 22, 24, 25 and 29, Uppaluru teaches that a telephone terminal 111 transmits and receives voice signal/information, a voice browser 105 (voice processing unit) receives voice signal/information, including account number, and transmits converted voice signal/information to web server 102 (information providing unit), the web server 102 receives the converted
voice signal/information and outputs corresponding information to the voice browser 105, and terminal 111 as stated above.

5.10 Regarding claims 20, 21, 26-28, 37, 38 and 42, it would have been obvious that a telephone number of terminal 111 could be used as account number.

5.11 Regarding claims 31 and 36, Uppaluru discloses a telephone terminal 111 in figure 1, comprising:

unique identification information (account number) as processing identification information corresponding to a series of processes performed by a voice processing server 105 which performs voice processing for voice information from the telephone terminal 111 and an information providing server 102 which transmits information

reflecting a voice processing result obtained by the voice processing server t the telephone terminal 111 (column 5, lines 51-56; column 6, lines 31-66);

first transmission means for transmitting a service request signal and the processing identification information to the information providing server 102 when a service request is issued by the telephone terminal 111 (column 6, lines 31-66; column 9, lines 57-64; column 12, line 66 – column 13, line 2);

); and

second transmission means (obviously can be the same first transmission means) for transmitting the input voice information to said voice processing server together with the processing identification.

Uppaluru teaches an account number, but fails to teach an output means for output the account number.

However, Penning teaches that a telephone device stores user account number and telephone numbers which can be displayed (column 1, lines 10-16).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the Uppaluru reference with the teaching of Penning, so that the telephone terminal 111 would have stored the account number of user 107 and would have displayed the account number to the user 107 when needed. The motivation for such a modification was to enable a user to store and lookup an account number without memorization.

5.12 Regarding claim 32 and 33, the modified Uppaluru teference teaches pre-stored account number and telephone numbers as stated above.

5.13 Regarding claim 43, Uppaluru teaches a web server 102, and voice processing server (with voice recognition capabilities) for processing voice signals from telephone terminal 111 as stated above.

6. Claims 4-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Uppaluru US 5,915,001 in view of Penning et al. US 5,717,740 and further in vies of Aldous et al. US 6,654,722 and further in view of Gallant et al. US 6,636,596.

The modified Uppaluru reference fails to teach transmitting the processing identification information to the terminal.

However, Aldous teaches a VoIP voice browser 5 enabling VoIP calls to retrieve web information via Internet 4 (figure 1; column 4, line 66 – column 5, line 58), and Gallant teaches IP phones 15 for making VoIP calls over Internet 17 (figure 1, column 1, lines 8-34; column 2, lines 35-50).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to further modify the Uppaluru reference with the teachings of Aldous and Gallant, so that the voice processing unit 105 would have been a VoIP enabled unit to accept VoIP call over Internet 101, and the voice processing unit 105 would have used its IP address as processing identification information to route

packets, such that packets transmitted between the voice processing unit 105 and information providing unit 102, and between voice processing unit 105 and an IP phone terminal, would have comprised the IP address of the processing unit 102 to identifying originating (from voice processing unit 105 to information providing unit 102/IP telephone terminal) and destination (from information providing unit 102/IP telephone terminal to the voice processing unit 105) addresses of the packets.

7. Claims 30, 34, 35 and 39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Uppaluru US 5,915,001 in view of Aldous et al. US 6,654,722 and further in view of Gallant et al. US 6,636,596.

7.1 Regarding claims 30 and 35, Uppaluru discloses an information providing server 102 in figure 1, comprising:

first reception means for receiving a service request signal from a telephone terminal 111 via a voice processing unit 105 (column 6, lines 31- 66);

identification generating means for generating processing identification information (obviously using the IP address of the voice processing unit 105 as processing identification information for transmitting packets through Internet 101) corresponding to a series of processes performed on the basis of voice information from said telephone terminal (column 4, line 38 – column 5, line 12);

means for generating first information to be presented to said telephone terminal 111 on the basis of the processing identification information (column 6, lines 31-66);

first transmission means for transmitting the first information the telephone terminal 111 (column 6, lines 31-66);

second reception means (obvious can be the same first reception means) for receiving a voice processing result from a voice processing server 105 (column 6, lines 31-66);

means for generating second information reflecting the result in correspondence with the processing result (column 6, lines 31-66);

second transmission means (obvious can be the same first transmission means) for transmitting the second information to the telephone terminal 111 (column 19, lines 32-61).

Uppaluru teaches (obviousness in a packet network, i.e. Internet 101) using the IP address as processing identification information, but fails to teach transmitting the processing identification information to the terminal.

However, Aldous teaches a VoIP voice browser 5 enabling VoIP calls to retrieve web information via Internet 4 (figure 1; column 4, line 66 – column 5, line 58), and Gallant teaches IP phones 15 for making VoIP calls over Internet 17 (figure 1, column 1, lines 8-34; column 2, lines 35-50).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to further modify the Uppaluru reference with the teachings of Aldous and Gallant, so that the voice processing unit 105 would have been a VoIP

enabled unit to accept VoIP call over Internet 101, and the voice processing unit 105 would have used its IP address as processing identification information to route packets, such that packets transmitted between the voice processing unit 105 and information providing unit 102, and between voice processing unit 105 and an IP phone terminal, would have comprised the IP address of the processing unit 102 to identifying originating (from voice processing unit 105 to information providing unit 102/IP telephone terminal) and destination (from information providing unit 102/IP telephone terminal to the voice processing unit 105) addresses of the packets.

7.2 Regarding claims 34 and 39, Uppaluru discloses a voice processing server 105 in figure 1, comprising:

first reception means for receiving a voice processing request signal from a telephone terminal (client) 111 (column 6, lines 31-66);

identification information generating means for generating processing identification information, such as an account number, corresponding to a series of processes performed on the basis of voice information from said client 111 when the voice processing request signal is received (column 5, lines 51-56; column 6, lines 31-66; column 9, lines 57-64; column 12, line 66 – column 13, line 2);

second reception means (obviously can be the same first reception means) for receiving the voice information and the processing identification information from said client (column 5, lines 51-56; column 6, lines 31-66; column 9, lines 57-64; column 12, line 66 – column 13, line 2);

voice processing executing means for performing voice processing for the voice information from said client (column 6, lines 31-66); and

transmission means for transmitting, to an information providing server 102, a voice processing result obtained by said voice processing executing means and the processing identification information from said client, while generating information reflecting the voice processing result in correspondence with the processing identification information (column 6, lines 31-66; column 19, lines 32-61).

Uppaluru teaches a packet network, i.e. Internet 101 for exchanging packets between the voice processing server 105 and the information providing server 102, it would have obvious that the IP address of the voice processing server 105 can be used as processing identification information in order to roué packets through the Internet 101. Uppaluru fails to teach transmitting the processing identification information, i.e. the IP address of the voice processing server 105 to the telephone terminal 111.

However, Aldous teaches a VoIP voice browser 5 enabling VoIP calls to retrieve web information via Internet 4 (figure 1; column 4, line 66 – column 5, line 58), and Gallant teaches IP phones 15 for making VoIP calls over Internet 17 (figure 1, column 1, lines 8-34; column 2, lines 35-50).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to further modify the Uppaluru reference with the teachings of Aldous and Gallant, so that the voice processing unit 105 would have been a VoIP enabled unit to accept VoIP call over Internet 101, and the voice processing unit 105 would have used its IP address as processing identification information to route

packets, such that packets transmitted between the voice processing unit 105 and information providing unit 102, and between voice processing unit 105 and an IP phone terminal, would have comprised the IP address of the processing unit 102 to identifying originating (from voice processing unit 105 to information providing unit 102/IP telephone terminal) and destination (from information providing unit 102/IP telephone terminal to the voice processing unit 105) addresses of the packets.

Conclusion

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communication from the examiner should be directed to Simon Sing whose telephone number is 571-272-7545. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 8:30 AM to 5:30 PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Fan Tsang, can be reached at 571-272-7547. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 571-272-2600.

/Simon Sing/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2614